

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed July 10, 2007. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1, 3-11, and 13-18 remain pending. Applicants cancel claims 2 and 12 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants cancel claims 2 and 12 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants have also amended claims that depend from claim 2, to update their dependency to claim 1. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for a thorough examination of the pending application. Applicants further wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 12 and 18 would be allowed if rewritten to incorporate all the limitations of any base and intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to incorporate all of the limitations of dependent claim 12. Therefore, all pending claims incorporate the above limitations as they depend from independent claim 1. Applicants wish to emphasize that the claim amendments were made merely to advance prosecution and reduce the number of disputed items in order to put the application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, Applicants submit all claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request a corresponding notice of allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

Any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and Official Notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well-known for the particular and specific reasons that the claimed combinations are too complex to support such conclusions and because the Office Action does not include specific findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

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